

Attorney Docket No. CH-03-01

Page 4 of 14

Amendments to the claims:

Please cancel claim 1, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 2 as indicated.

2. The feminine hygiene article of claim \pm 16, comprising a soft material that is substantially non-irritating to human skin and membranes in the genital area.

Please amend claims 5 and 6 as indicated.

5. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article comprises at least one folded layer.

6. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article comprises at least one layer and is rolled into an elongated coil.

Please amend claims 8-13 as indicated.

8. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article has a length between about 6 inches and about 10 inches.

9. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article has a width less than about 1.5 inches.

10. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article has a height between about 0.5 inches and about 1.5 inches.

11. The article of claim \pm 16, wherein said article is flexible and can conform to the shape of the body area where it is used.

12. The article of claim \pm 16, comprising a material that can be flushed into a sewer

Attorney Docket No. CH-03-01

Page 5 of 14

system.

13. The article of claim + 16, comprising a material that is biodegradable.

Please cancel claim 14, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 15 as indicated.

15. The kit of claim +~~2~~ 17, wherein said absorbent article is selected from panty liners, mini-pads, maxi-pads, and sanitary napkins.

Please add new claims 16 and 17:

16. (New) A feminine hygiene article for absorption of bodily fluids, comprising:
an elongated absorbent article having a front end, a back end, a length between said front and back ends sufficient to extend from a point between the user's buttocks to a point beyond the user's urogenital area;

wherein said back end is formed for retention between a user's buttocks while said front end extends forward between the user's legs and beyond the user's urogenital area, said back end has a height less than about 2 inches and a width sufficiently small to fit between the user's buttocks and legs without causing significant discomfort, and said front end does not include an intravaginal portion.

17. (New) A feminine hygiene kit, comprising:

an elongated absorbent article having a front end, a back end, a length between

Attorney Docket No. CH-03-01

Page 6 of 14

said front and back ends sufficient to extend from a point between the user's buttocks to a point beyond the user's urogenital area, wherein said back end is formed for retention between a user's buttocks while said front end extends forward between the user's legs and beyond the user's urogenital area, said back end has a height less than about 2 inches and a width sufficiently small to fit between the user's buttocks and legs without causing significant discomfort, and said front end does not include an intravaginal portion; and

an absorbent pad held in placed between the user's panties and her urogenital area.